ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for processing original image data that is bit mapped in a main-scanning direction X and a sub-scanning direction Y first multiplies linearly aligned dots in the main-scanning direction X of the original bit mapped image data by a positive integer Dy to generate Dy lines of linearly aligned dots adjoining each other in the sub-scanning direction Y as a first group of the sub-scanning direction Y. Other functions include second multiplying following linearly aligned dots in the main-scanning direction X of the original bit mapped image data by a positive integer Ry to generate Ry lines of linearly aligned dots adjoining each other in the sub-scanning direction Y as a second group of the sub-scanning direction Y, and multiplying further following linearly aligned dots in the main-scanning direction X of the original bit mapped image data by repeating the above first and second multiplying steps.